

**Regents' consultant to make university visits
Deloitte will hold meetings, talk with 'all stakeholders'**

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IOWA CITY, IA. — The consultant group hired by the Board of Regents to study efficiency at Iowa's three state universities is expected to make campus visits starting later this month. The regents in February approved a \$2.5 million contract for Deloitte Consulting — an audit, financial advisory, tax and consulting specialist — to conduct an efficiency review of the three state universities, which includes the University of Iowa, Iowa State University and the University of Northern Iowa. A similar study in the late 1980s cost \$1.25 million and was plagued by controversy and political battles.

Bruce Rastetter, president of the Board of Regents, said last week that the upcoming efficiency study will be a transparent process.

"I'm not going to predict what Deloitte will find or not find," he said, adding that the approach will be "bottom-up."

Deloitte is expected to be on the campuses on the following dates:

Week of March 24: Iowa State University.

Week of March 31: University of Iowa.

Week of April 7: University of Northern Iowa.

During its initial phase, Deloitte will meet with "all stakeholders on campus," said Regent Larry McKibben. There will be a town hall meeting on each of the campuses facilitated by the university president. McKibben and Rastetter plan to be at each meeting.

McKibben said he has told student leaders from all three state universities that they are invited to be a part of the process.

"I told them we expect and hope you will participate very vigorously with the process," McKibben said. "And they have ideas. That's the beauty of being on a campus."

Rastetter said any savings that might be found by Deloitte will be reinvested in the institutions from which the money came.

At a meeting of the regents Wednesday in Iowa City, a small group of students showed up to protest the efficiency study. University of Iowa President Sally Mason said the protest was the first she had heard from students concerned about the review.

The students were allowed to shout their chants and then were ushered out of the meeting.